

CURRENT STATUS OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An improved apparatus for cleaning articles in a fluid and oscillating medium, which comprises:

a frame;

a container having a wall with interior and exterior surfaces, and having a central axis perpendicular to an article inlet opening in the container and mounted to the frame so that the central axis of the container is non-perpendicular to a horizontal cross-section of the frame by means of a plurality of opposing parallel compression and tension springs having differing spring rates for enhanced oscillation of the container which holds the articles;

a means for injecting a cleaning fluid into the container for cleaning the articles in the container;

~~a means for oscillating the container within the frame;~~ an electric motor within said frame and connected directly to the exterior wall of said container, said motor having a rotating shaft with at least one eccentric weight thereon causing said motor and said container to vibrate;

a means for draining excess debris and cleaning fluid from the articles in the container once oscillation begins; and

a means for filtering and recirculating the cleaning fluid from the solid debris back into the container, the filter means comprising a series of filters.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the frame comprises a plurality of integrally connected unitary components of square tubing for facilitating stability of the container, oscillating means, and drainage means.
4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the container is mounted to the frame by a plurality of opposing parallel compression and tension springs for oscillation of the container.
5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the injection means comprises:
 - an intake manifold; and
 - a plurality of injection nozzles horizontally displaced on the intake manifold and over the container for injection of a cleaning fluid into the container to clean the articles contained therein.
6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the drainage means comprises:
 - an opening in the container;
 - a reservoir below the opening and containing a plurality of ports;
 - a plurality of nozzles connected to the reservoir and ports and in alignment with the filter means.
7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the filter means comprises:
 - a duct leading from the draining means to a first filter; and
 - a duct leading from the first filter to a second filter wherein the second filter contains a circulation pump assembly to circulate the cleaning fluid back

into the container through the injection nozzle means.

8. (Cancelled)

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claim 2, without prejudice or disclaimer, based not upon the prior art, but upon the electric motor referenced in Claim 2 being incorporated into Claim 1 as amended to reduce the issues involved with the prosecution of the claims in this application.

Please amend Claim 1 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An improved apparatus for cleaning articles in a fluid and oscillating medium, which comprises:

a frame;

a container having a wall with interior and exterior surfaces, and having a central axis perpendicular to an article inlet opening in the container and mounted to the frame so that the central axis of the container is non-perpendicular to a horizontal cross-section of the frame by means of a plurality of opposing parallel compression and tension springs having differing spring rates for enhanced oscillation of the container which holds the articles;

a means for injecting a cleaning fluid into the container for cleaning the articles in the container;

~~a means for oscillating the container within the frame;~~ an electric motor within said frame and connected directly to the exterior wall of said container, said motor having a rotating shaft with at least one eccentric weight thereon causing said motor and said container to vibrate;

a means for draining excess debris and cleaning fluid from the articles in the container once oscillation begins; and

a means for filtering and recirculating the cleaning fluid from the solid debris back into the container, the filter means comprising a series of filters.